

What is Claimed Is:

1. A method of providing content to a device according to Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP), the method comprising:

receiving an HTTP request for a first content object;

identifying a content operation identifier that identifies a corresponding second content object  
5 determined as relevant to the first content object; and

sending to the device an HTTP response to the HTTP request, the HTTP response including the first content object and the content operation identifier, enabling the device to perform a content operation associated with the second content object based on receipt of the content operation identifier.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying step includes retrieving, based on retrieval of a first stored file containing the first content object, a second stored file associated with the first stored file and containing the content operation identifier.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the sending step includes adding to the first content object a content operation tag that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive tag specifying the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the first content object is a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document, the adding step including inline prepending the content operation tag from the second stored file into the HTML document.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the directive tag specifies one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object.

6. The method of claim 2, wherein the sending step includes inserting into the HTTP response at least one extensible HTTP header that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive that identifies the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the directive, retrieved with the content operation identifier from the second stored file, specifies at least one of prefetching and purging the selected content object.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the sending step includes adding to the first content object a content operation tag that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive tag specifying the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the first content object is a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document, the adding step including inline prepending the content operation tag into the HTML document.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the directive tag specifies one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the sending step includes inserting into the HTTP response at least one extensible HTTP header that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive that identifies the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the directive specifies one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the selected content object.

13. A method of retrieving content for a device according to Hypertext Transport Protocol, the method comprising:

first sending an HTTP request for a first content object, received from the device, to a destination server specified by the HTTP request;

receiving from the destination server an HTTP response to the HTTP request that includes the first content object and a content operation identifier that specifies an operation to be performed on an identified second content object;

second sending the first content object to the device; and

executing the operation on the second content object in response to the content operation identifier.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the executing step includes:

detecting the content operation identifier based on parsing the HTTP response; and  
accessing the identified second content object for execution of the operation.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the detecting step includes parsing a markup language document within the HTTP response and containing the first content object and the content operation identifier, the content operation identifier including a directive tag specifying the corresponding operation and an object identifier specifying a location of the second content object.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the parsing step includes detecting the directive tag as an Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) tag inline prepended to an HTML document specifying the first content object.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the accessing step includes one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object, based on the directive tag.

18. The method of claim 14, wherein the parsing step includes parsing the content operation identifier from an HTTP header within the HTTP response, the content operation identifier including a directive specifying the corresponding operation and an object identifier specifying a location of the second content object.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the accessing step includes one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object, based on the directive.

20. A server configured for providing content to a device according to Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP), the server comprising:

an interface configured for receiving an HTTP request for a first content object and outputting an HTTP response; and

an executable process configured for identifying a content operation identifier that identifies a corresponding second content object determined as relevant to the first content object, the executable process configured for supplying within the HTTP response the first content object and the content operation identifier, enabling the device to perform a content operation associated with the second content object based on receipt of the content operation identifier within the HTTP response.

21. The server of claim 20, wherein the executable process is configured for retrieving, based on retrieval of a first stored file containing the first content object, a second stored file associated with the first stored file and containing the content operation identifier.

22. The server of claim 21, wherein the executable process is configured for adding to the first content object a content operation tag that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive tag specifying the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

23. The server of claim 22, wherein the first content object is a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document, the executable process configured for inline prepending the content operation tag from the second stored file into the HTML document.

24. The server of claim 23, wherein the directive tag specifies one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object.

25. The server of claim 21, wherein the executable process is configured for inserting into the HTTP response at least one extensible HTTP header that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive that identifies the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

26. The server of claim 25, wherein the directive, retrieved by the executable process with the content operation identifier from the second stored file, specifies at least one of prefetching and purging the selected content object.

27. The server of claim 20, wherein the executable process is configured for adding to the first content object a content operation tag that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive tag specifying the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

28. The server of claim 27, wherein the first content object is a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document, the executable process configured for inline prepending the content operation tag into the HTML document.

29. The server of claim 28, wherein the directive tag specifies one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object.

30. The server of claim 20, wherein the executable process is configured for inserting into the HTTP response at least one extensible HTTP header that specifies the content operation identifier including a directive that identifies the corresponding content operation to be performed by the device and an object identifier that specifies a location of the second content object.

31. The server of claim 30, wherein the directive specifies one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the selected content object.

32. A proxy device configured for retrieving content for a device according to Hypertext Transport Protocol, the proxy device comprising:

an HTTP interface configured for sending an HTTP request for a first content object, received from the device, to a destination server specified by the HTTP request, and receiving from the destination server an HTTP response to the HTTP request that includes the first content object and a content operation identifier that specifies an operation to be performed on an identified second content object; and

an executable resource configured for sending via the HTTP interface the first content object to the device, and executing the operation on the second content object in response to the content operation identifier.

33. The proxy device of claim 32, wherein the executable resource is configured for parsing the HTTP response to detect the content operation identifier, the executable resource accessing the identified second content object for execution of the operation.

34. The proxy device of claim 33, wherein the executable resource is configured for parsing a markup language document within the HTTP response and containing the first content object and the content operation identifier, the content operation identifier including a directive tag specifying the corresponding operation and an object identifier specifying a location of the second content object.

35. The proxy device of claim 34, wherein the executable resource is configured for detecting the directive tag as an Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) tag inline prepended to an HTML document specifying the first content object.

36. The proxy device of claim 35, wherein the executable resource is configured for any one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object, based on the directive tag.

37. The proxy device of claim 33, wherein the executable resource is configured for parsing the content operation identifier from an HTTP header within the HTTP response, the content operation identifier including a directive specifying the corresponding operation and an object identifier specifying a location of the second content object.

38. The proxy device of claim 37, wherein the executable resource is configured for any one of at least prefetching, and purging from a cache, the second content object, based on the directive.